

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

MAY 1988

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Sen. Judy C. Kany
Sen. Edwin C. Randall

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Rep. James R. Handy
Rep. William O'Gara
Rep. Marge L. Kilkelly
Rep. Judy Paradis
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Rep. Mary E. Small
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* Denotes Chair

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1988**

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Lorette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD An Act to Clarify the Method of Computing Unusual Enrollment PUBLIC
1980 Adjustments 603

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
SMALL ESTES RANDALL OGARA	OTP-AM	H-453

SUMMARY

This bill changes the method of calculating the adjustment in the School Finance Act for units experiencing unusual enrollment increases. Currently, the adjustment is based on the average K-12 per pupil operating rate. Because there are differences in the elementary and secondary per pupil operating rates, this method is not always equitable. The bill provides for using the appropriate per pupil operating rate in calculating the adjustment.

The committee amendment deletes unnecessary language from the bill.

LD An Act to Amend the Law Concerning the Maine Student PUBLIC
1989 Incentive Scholarship Program 795
EMERGENCY

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
PERKINS PEARSON LAWRENCE CARTER	OTP-AM	S-317

SUMMARY

This bill amends the method of distributing grants through the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program. Currently, set percentages of the total funds are allocated for use by students of the University of Maine System, Maine Maritime Academy, vocational technical institutes and private institutions. If the funds for private institution students are not all used, they lapse to the General Fund. This bill provides that rather than lapsing they shall be used for grants to eligible students attending the UMS.

The committee amendment makes two additional language changes in the bill.

LD An Act to Amend the Law Concerning the Blaine House Scholars PUBLIC
1994 Program 611

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
RANDALL ESTES SMALL PARADIS J	OTP	

SUMMARY

The Blaine House Scholars Program provides for a program of forgivable loans to graduating high school seniors who go on to post secondary study. This

bill expands eligibility under the program to students already enrolled in a post secondary institution.

LD An Act Directing the Department of Educational and Cultural P & S
2012 Services to Study the Issue of Granting Credit for Fee-Based 105
Driver Education Courses

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
STEVENSON MAYO BOST BUSTIN	OTP-AM	H-549

SUMMARY

Current law allows schools to charge fees which are based on per pupil costs for driver education courses. However, if a fee is charged, the law prohibits schools granting credit for driver education. This bill would have allowed schools to grant credit for such courses.

During committee deliberations, a concern was raised over the constitutionality of granting credit for courses for which a fee is charged in light of the requirement of a free public education in the Maine Constitution. The committee amendment directs the Department of Educational and Cultural Services (with the assistance of the Attorney General) to study the issue of granting credit for fee-based driver education courses and to report to the Legislature in December, 1988.

LD An Act to Increase the Base Salary of Vocational-Technical LV/WD
2033 Institute Instructors

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MATTHEWS Z ESTES BOST JOSEPH	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required minimum VTI instructor salaries to be equal to the minimum starting salary for public school teachers - \$15,500.

LD An Act to Amend the Law Concerning Alternate Voting ND 2518
2051 Procedures for School Budget Approval

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MURPHY E TUTTLE SMALL	OTP-ND	

SUMMARY

Replaced By LD 2518